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Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination: elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Programme budget implications of revised draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/63/14) on the programme budget implications of the revised draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1. As indicated in paragraph 4 of the statement, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution and authorize the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to meet for an additional week per session, as a temporary measure, with effect from August 2009 until 2011, it is estimated that additional requirements for the bienniums 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 could arise over and above the current provisions in the programme budget for 2008-2009 to provide for staff costs, daily subsistence allowances for members of the Committee and conference-servicing requirements for 10 additional meetings in August 2009 in order to address the persisting backlog of reports of States parties awaiting consideration. Moreover, it is estimated that 20 additional meetings of the Committee per year would be held in 2010-2011.

2. As the Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 5 of his statement, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was informed orally, at its seventy-third session, that an estimated $437,800 would be required for 2009, pursuant to its request to the Secretariat to consider all possible measures to enable it to meet for one additional week at its seventy-fifth session. The statement also indicates that the relevant additional requirements under section 23, Human rights,

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for daily subsistence allowances for the members of the Committee, and section 28E, Administration, Geneva, for conference-servicing support costs, amounting to $54,200 and $3,700, respectively, could be met from within the appropriations under those sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The remaining balance of up to $379,900 that would be required under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would represent a charge against the contingency fund requiring additional appropriations under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

3. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee notes that, as indicated in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's statement, the overall impact of the proposals would amount to net additional requirements of $379,900 under section 2 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. The extent to which those additional requirements would necessitate additional appropriations for the biennium 2008-2009 would be determined in the context of the consolidated statement of all statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates, which, together with the proposals on the utilization of the contingency fund, is due to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the main part of its sixty-third session.

4. **Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee may wish to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt revised draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1, additional requirements of up to $379,900 may arise under section 2 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 to meet the additional conference-servicing needs of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.**

5. The Advisory Committee further notes that the net requirements for the biennium 2010-2011 are shown in paragraph 20 of the statement. **The Committee stresses that the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1 should not be seen as prejudging in any way the outcome of consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.**